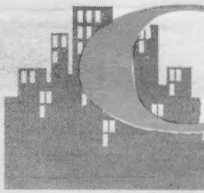


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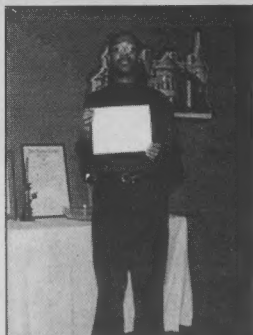
The new perspective on city living

State abandons Newark



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Newarker Makes Honor Society — Leetwaun Snowden of Newark was recently inducted into Phi Alpha Theta at Fairleigh Dickinson University. Phi Alpha Theta is an international honor society in history, and the highest rated departmental honor society at FDU. To be eligible students must average 3.10 or better in history courses and maintain an average of 3.00 in 66 percent of the remainder of their work.



Grand Opening — The Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott was recently opened a Newark Airport location. Seen here are members of the new hotel's staff.



I'm A Survivor — Yvone Simpkins of Newark releases her butterfly into the air at Clara Mass Medical Center's 2002 Cancer Survivor Day. More than 700 cancer survivors, their families and friends attended the free event, part of a national day of observance to celebrate the many individuals who have fought the disease and won.

Send your **CITY PEOPLE** news and photos to:
City News
111 Mulberry Street
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or via email to
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Briefs

A green Newark oasis

NEWARK — Mayor Sharpe James accepted a \$1 million grant Tuesday to rebuild and renovate city parks. James was joined in the Mildred Helms Park by dignitaries from the Trust for Public Land, the National Park Service, and the Newark Public Schools for the announcement. The mayor said, "We will create a green oasis in this neighborhood where our youngsters can enjoy healthy and wholesome activities."

EO youth get POWER

EAST ORANGE — Local youth will join Mayor Robert Bowser on Friday to launch the Preparing Our World through Education and Responsibility (P.O.W.E.R.), a youth employment initiatives supported by Colgate Palmolive, Shoprite Stores and the Mayor's Youth 2000 Initiative Program.

Bush visit boosts GOP

PORT ELIZABETH — President George W. Bush toured Port Elizabeth and raised funds for Rep. Mike Ferguson (R-Warren Twp.)

A sad obituary:

"Common Sense" had died

Today we mourn the passing of an old friend by the name of Common Sense.

Common Sense lived a long life but finally died of heart failure. No one really knows how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He selflessly devoted his life to service in schools, hospitals, homes, factories and offices. He helped folks get jobs done without fanfare and foolishness. For decades, petty rules, silly laws and frivolous lawsuits held no power over Common Sense. He was credited with cultivating such valued lessons as to know when to come in and out of the rain, the early bird gets the worm, and life isn't always fair.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies such as "don't spend more than you earn", reliable parenting strategies, and the idea that "s'okay to come in second sometimes. A veteran of the Industrial Revolution, the Great Depression, and the Technological Revolution,

Common Sense survived cultural and educational trends, including body piercing, whole language, ebonics and new math. His health declined when he became infected with the "If it only helps one person it's worth it" bug. In recent decades his waning strength proved no match for the ravages of overbearing federal regulation. He watched in pain as good people became ruled by self-seeking lawyers and enlightened auditors.

Common Sense knew the end was near when schools endlessly implemented zero tolerance policies, reports of six-year-old boys charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate, a teen suspended for taking a swig of mouthwash after lunch, and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, when schools had to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student but could not inform the parent when the female student is pregnant or wants an abortion.

Finally, Common Sense lost his will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses, criminals received better treatment than victims, and federal judges stuck their noses in everything from Boy Scouts to professional sports.

Common Sense drifted in and out of consciousness but was kept informed of developments regarding questionable regulations for asbestos, low-flow toilets, smart guns, the nurturing of prohibition laws and mandatory air bags.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason. Not many attended his funeral, unfortunately, because so few realize he is gone.

- Author Unknown

Curious Observer

What upstart member of the governor's staff publicly called a respected female State senator a name that sounded as if he was a gangsta rapper? I wonder: Is this guy believing his own press?

What savvy city planner returns to Newark, reportedly to take over a top City Hall spot? I wonder: How different will the new guard be when the new administration takes office.

NJ sports chief George R. Zoffinger blames much of the Authority's problems on John Whitman, — Christie's husband — who during her term crafted a deal to keep the Devils at the Meadowlands. Tell me: How did he get away with it!

Gov. James E. McGreevey wants to increase jail time for driving with a revoked license. In NJ, your license can be revoked for unpaid parking tickets, parking is scarce, parking tickets is a regressive tax on the urban residents, and you must travel on public transportation to Trenton, Deptford or Wayne to restore your privilege. I wonder: Why criminalize what is initially a 25-cent offense?

What celebrated urban poet publicly unleashed a diatribe at a Newark's Mayor Sharpe James, that made the poet sounds more like a gangsta rapper? I wonder: Is this guy the worse stumbling block in his son's political career?

Have an observation you want to share?

Send to:
Curious Observer
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Briefs

LANDOWNERS DECLARE VICTORY IN NISSAN WAR

JACKSON, Miss. (NNPA) — A 14-month battle that has been tinged with charges of racism and discrimination over land wanted for the \$930 million Nissan project is over. Five Black families recently declared victory over the state of Mississippi and Nissan's failed efforts to take their property through eminent domain. The families' ordeal and their fight with Nissan and state officials were chronicled last fall in a three-part series produced under the NNPA's NorthStar Investigative Reporting Program.

REPUBLICANS BLOCK HATE CRIMES LEGISLATION

WASHINGTON — Republicans recently blocked a vote on a bill that would make attacks motivated by sexual orientation, disability, and gender federal crimes. The bill would expand on the current federal hate crimes law passed in 1968 that made it a federal crime to attack someone based on his or her race, religion, or national origin.

The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act would give the federal law enforcement agencies important powers to prosecute crimes based on sexual orientation, gender, or disability if local law enforcement authorities were unable or chose not to prosecute.

PRESIDENT OF SENEGAL'S TO PRESS AFRICAN NATIONS TO FIGHT TERRORISM

WASHINGTON — Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade has assured President Bush that his country would continue to press other African nations to pursue a protocol on fighting terrorism. After meeting with Bush at the White House, Wade told reporters that he updated Bush on efforts to build support for the Algiers convention, an anti-terrorism pact adopted in 1999 in response to the deadly embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania - attacks blamed on the Al-Qaida terror network.

Dems charge White House inflames white voters

By Hazel Trice Edney
NNPA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—The Bush White House—while talking about improving its relationship with black voters—is trying to inflame white voters by reminding them of the potential power of black representatives if Democrats win control of the House, a Democratic spokeswoman says.

Jennifer Palmieri, spokeswoman for the Democratic National Committee, says White House Political Director Kenneth Mehlman appeared to use a quotation by Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.) in a PowerPoint presentation to West Coast Republicans in order to send a subtle racial message.

In the quote, Rangel was referring to the Florida voting debacle in Election 2000. The presentation noted, "Rep. Charles Rangel (D-Harlem) drew cheers when he hailed Clinton as 'the last elected president of the U.S.' and said, 'It is our job to say we're not getting over Florida.'"

UNGA, HUD host forum on homeownership

WASHINGTON — National Governors Association (NGA) Chairman Michigan Governor John Engler, Philadelphia Mayor John Street and Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Deputy Secretary Alphonso Jackson were joined by officials from Fannie Mae and the National Association of Homebuilders for a roundtable discussion recently at Union Station. The forum focused on strategies for expanding homeownership for low-income and minority families and was moderated by Ray Suarez, senior correspondent for The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer.

In the past decade, an expanding economy and major changes in social policy have produced a host of positive news. There were large declines in unemployment rates among women and minorities, greater labor force participation by single mothers, and higher real wages for the country's less-skilled workforce. Additionally, the Census Bureau reported that more Americans were homeowners last year than any time in the nation's history, and that homeownership among Latinos was at an all time high. Despite this economic progress, many low-income and minority families have limited access to safe and affordable housing.

"What's the point of this? You just happen to end with a slide where you identify Rangel as being from D-Harlem?" asks Palmieri in an interview. "Why do they evoke Rangel for any other reason other than to say to their base, 'This African-American man is going to be chairman of the most powerful committee in Congress if Democrats are elected.'"

If Democrats win control of the House, Rangel would become chair of the Ways and Means Committee, which makes powerful financial decisions. "We find it suspicious

that they choose to close their presentation with what they view to be an inflammatory quote from an African-American member of Congress who will become a major player in the House if it's Democratic," Palmieri says. "It belies a larger insensitivity to the African-American community."

Ironically, the PowerPoint presentation on election strategy, given earlier this month by the White House Office of Strategic Initiatives, lays out plans by the Republican Party to "improve" the president's outreach among African-

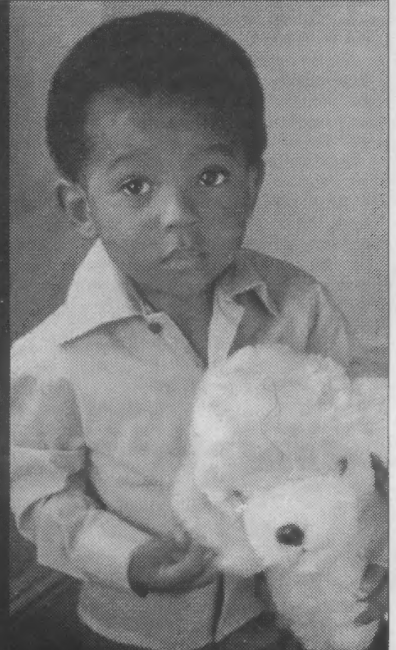
Americans and "grow" his outreach among women and Hispanic voters in order to help win the election.

A Republican spokesman scoffed at Palmieri's assertion, but gave no reason for the use of the quote.

A White House spokeswoman was concise when asked why the quotation was used. "It's clear from Congressman Rangel's statement that the Democrats will work hard in the next presidential election and you can be sure we will work harder," says Mercedes M. Viana.



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Provided by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. Funded by the Master Settlement Agreement between the 46 states and the tobacco industry.



Editorial

Arena opposition defies common sense

For more than 30 years New Jersey's urban centers have been viewed as major failures: Little more than havens for the poor that the rest of the State had to subsidize.

Well now that the focus is on the cities Republican legislators are up to their old tricks of saying that any benefit to Newark is a lost to their suburban district. Almost every major legislation proposed to give the cities a chance to rise above the ashes, has been opposed by this conservative legislative crew who are willing to vote for more money for prisons, cut welfare, workfare, and school funding and vote against locating the arena in Newark.

Most private conversation about the actions of these recalcitrant legislators sooner or later gets around to realizing that their opposition is really about race, cloaked in a tax overcoat.

The same game was played to undermine Governor Florio's attempt to handle the school funding issue. While playing the tax game is not new, what defies logic is how Republicans in communities around Newark including Hudson, Union, Passaic, Middlesex or Monmouth counties can oppose a location that enables their constituents to get to a sporting event in less than an hour by train. Yet these same Republicans have support for years the \$40 million annually loss subsidized at the Continental arena.

A group of private investors have come to the table, created a public/private partnership and is willing to cover the risk of any losses. Still Republican state senators Bennett, Bagger, Kavanaugh, Inverso, and Littell to name a few are unwilling to support what is best for the families and future of New Jersey. These lawmakers would rather "Willy Hortonize" the arena.

When will suburban New Jersey wake up and stop getting played. We hope soon.

The future of New Jersey depends upon elected officials who will to rise above the race game and vote for a New Jersey where all of our children can enjoy the rewards of economic progress.

Bush building houses: what's up?

By Ron Walters
NNPA Writer

Something strange appeared in the middle of the "war on terrorism" and homeland security preparations. President George Bush proposes spending \$200 million a year in subsidies to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to help 400,000 families with down payment and closing costs on a home, and to provide tax credits encouraging builders to build homes for 200,000 low- and moderate-income families, all by 2010. This plan, targeted to minority home buyers, is designed to increase the number of homeowners to 5.5 million.

Urban policy has traditionally been a

favorite whipping post for Republicans during the first Bush administration. The point here is politics as usual during a campaign year. Currently, Bush's popularity has fallen from 88 percent after last September 11 to 75 percent, signs that his job approval rating is losing steam as the elections approach. Even Republican conservatives feel that Bush is drastically spending his declining political capital on the war, not their domestic agenda.

Bush has gone on the offensive. He has promised grumbling House Republicans that he will raise \$20-\$30 million for their campaigns, support issues such as permanent tax cuts, prevent cloning, aid religious charities and

others. Nevertheless, the domestic issue of housing is a surprise because that is not on the conservatives' list. Accordingly, Bush has started campaigning on housing, which is now the central issue of his regular Saturday radio address. Bush launched his housing program in an Atlanta urban neighborhood. And if you look at the line of states in the South—from Virginia to Georgia—blacks could be the pivotal vote for Republican victories. Republicans have always had a marginal black vote strategy and this could help.

By the way, this proposal is competitive if it gets much play. Regardless of its political intent, it's a good thing if it comes to pass.

Why is it so hard to help youth trying to 'do right'?

By Anthony Asadullah Samad
TBWT Contributor

Every summer, we have to hear this conversation. "We don't have the money for youth summer job programs" — "We don't have the money for summer youth recreation programs." But instead, cities have money for suppression when crime increases, or when the murder rate rises. Every summer, the legislators have to "find a little money" to address "a very big problem," keeping youth out of trouble during the hottest time of the year, the summer months.

It's pretty troublesome to watch cities haggle with ga-zillionaires over new stadiums and million dollar PR contracts to promote water conservation then watch them scratch their butts when asked about money for summer jobs and youth recreation programs.

The increasing "class" divide in our society allows us to play to the elite in the democracy who get what they want; new concert halls, private beaches and football stadiums. We see the school districts, the community college districts and the welfare to work programs take large cuts that only complicate the ability of the poor and disenfranchised to stay

positive in what is, admittedly, a tough economy. And we tend to forget about the support systems (outside the home) we had as youth that kept idle minds from becoming the "devil's workshop."

I'm not the one to say 'what we used to do 'in the old days', but those old CETA summer work programs were effective deterrents to trouble — and could be counted on to be around every year. Irrespective of the fact that the fortunes of youth today are impeded by a whole host of complexities that were negligible 30 years ago, they deserve to have something they can look forward to, every summer.

As the father of a teenage son who is torn between doing right and succumbing to the peer pressures of a seemingly more engaging "street life," I think the only possible remedy parents have is to provide their children with constructive options.

There are many children whose parents don't care enough to seek constructive options, so they (children) take the choices that are available to them. If its jobs on the streets, most of them will take that job and parents will have to deal with the host of destructive realities that are on the streets.

Our responsibility to Africa deepens

By Ron Daniels
TBWT Contributor

Resurrecting Africa and restoring African people to our historic role as life givers and builders of civilization is a daunting task in the 21st century. However, as sons and daughters of Africa in the Diaspora, we have no choice but to link-up with our brothers and sisters on the continent to meet this awesome but essential challenge. The nations of Europe are rapidly consummating their collective vision of a European Union.

The disparate nations of Asia are exploring ways and means of moving in the same direction. And the United States seems determined to make the entire western hemisphere its own great zone of economic and political influence and control. In the face of these realities, Africa and African people have no viable choice but to unite to develop Africa as the global center for black power — the indispensable base and foundation to promote and protect the interests and aspirations of African people the world

over! To achieve this goal will require an extraordinary, almost miraculous effort. But it can and must be done.

Our responsibility to Africa and ourselves as people of African descent is first and foremost to promulgate a progressive vision of Pan African unity and action. By progressive I mean a commitment to preserve and advance the basic principles and values of the traditional way of life of people of African descent: the sharing of resources for mutual survival and development; cooperative economics; an emphasis on family hood and collective rather than individual well being; and an irreversible commitment to knowledge, justice and balance.

The purpose for resurrecting Africa is not to emulate and duplicate the "values" of those who have wreaked havoc on so many of the peoples and nations of the so called Third World. It is not simply to trade white tyrants for black tyrants or to build societies where there is prosperity for the few and misery for the masses. Our responsibility is to create new paradigms of possibility, models of human

liberation and development that will not only rescue African people but stand as beacons of promise to be emulated by other people throughout the world. The question of vision, values and principles based on the time-tested way of life of African people must be axiomatic to our pursuit.

In practical terms this means there can be no place for corrupt, self-aggrandizing African "leaders" in the new Africa that we must build. Courageous, people-centered leadership is crucial to the struggle to resurrect Africa.

To accomplish this task there must be a relentless struggle to break the back of neo-colonialism in Africa. Among other things this means resisting the machinations of the World Trade Organization, International Monetary Fund and World Bank in their scheme to exploit the human and material resources of Africa through "structural adjustment programs" which open Third World countries to the ruthless exploitation of multinational corporations under the guise of "free market reforms."

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The Writing Company garners award for Newark, Clean City Campaign

NEWARK — A public service announcement created for the Clean Newark campaign, a major quality of life initiative launched by the City of Newark, has taken a First Place Award of Excellence in the New Jersey Advertising Club's 2001 Jersey Awards Competition.

Regarded as the advertising industry's benchmark awards competition in the Garden State, this year's Advertising Club's award winners were selected from more than 600 entries reviewed by a blue ribbon panel of judges.

The spot, which took first place in the Public Service TV-Institutional category, was created by The Writing Company, a Newark-based public relations and marketing communications firm.

The Writing Company's president, Gloria Bryant, said that the spot was crafted in a humorous vein to draw the attention of Newark residents in a way that "avoided preaching."

"We wanted to point out that littering was a problem that shouldn't be tolerated and do it without pointing fingers or lecturing the public," Bryant said. She added, "This recognition award is a testament to the City

of Newark's vision and commitment to getting out an important message creatively and with impact."

The Clean Newark campaign will add 83 new workers to the city's cleanup teams, said Mayor Sharpe James. "These teams lead large-scale sweeps to clean vacant lots and public areas, remove graffiti, remove illegal dumping and secure or demolish abandoned buildings."

The city is also assigning 67 detail workers to maintain problem areas designated by our code enforcement officers working in the field, Jame said.

Clean Newark campaign partners include the Newark Housing Authority, which has launched a program called "Partners in Pride." Partners in Pride employs 144 public housing residents at their respective home sites. Their job is to maintain each public housing development and report problems for swift action. Another partner, the Newark Board of Education, is getting involved to beautify and maintain school sites as well as to promote the campaign message among youth.

To give youth a chance to participate in the campaign, the city has created the "Clean

Newark Kids Corps." Promising to make Newark a better place to live and go to school, students throughout Newark are taking the Kids Corps Pledge and clipping on "official" deputy badges. These items are part of the Clean Newark Kids Corps membership kit developed by The Writing Company and distributed at educational presentations throughout the city. The membership kit also includes information on why Newark's appearance is important, things kids can do to keep Newark clean, and a membership card.

"We know that if a window on a building is broken and not repaired, all the windows will soon be broken because even minor damage sends a message that no one cares," said Mayor James.

"Litter, graffiti and poorly maintained properties send this very same message. In the process, they open the door to other problems in our neighborhoods," James explained.

"The benefits of a cleaner Newark are clear: savings for taxpayers, improved property values, improved self-esteem, and a safer, healthier environment for our children," the mayor added.

Major League Baseball signs partnerships with minority and women business organizations

NEW YORK — Major League Baseball (MLB) recently announced the latest milestone in the evolution of its Diverse Business Partners Program, an economically driven business initiative established to cultivate new and existing partnerships with minority-owned and woman-owned businesses. MLB has signed individual partnership agreements with both the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) and Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC).

According to both NMSDC and WBENC, these agreements are the first of their kind with a professional sports league. The partnerships between Major League Baseball and the two organizations include memberships for the League's central office and member clubs in

local chapters of both NMSDC and WBENC.

This affiliation provides MLB with access to national and local minority-owned and woman-owned business information, as well as comprehensive resources including seminars, training and technical assistance that supplement the League's supplier diversity programs and enhances its diverse vendor procurement efforts.

Calling minority-owned businesses "one of the most energetic, entrepreneurial forces in America," Harriet R. Michel, president of the National Minority Supplier Development Council, praised the agreement, saying, "MLB's support of minority business development, and that of our other corporate members, helps build the foundation for a stronger, more equitable society in which all can flourish."

Continuing job losses haunt New Jersey

36,100 jobs lost in private sector since July

TRENTON — The loss of 5,800 private sector jobs in May has dashed hopes of an early recovery in New Jersey, the New Jersey Business & Industry Association said yesterday.

With last month's employment decline, the state's private sector has shed a net total of 36,100 jobs since the recession officially started in July of last year. Most of the job losses have come in the first five months of this year.

"The continuing job losses tell us the recession isn't over yet," said NJBIA President Joe Gonzalez. "The hoped for spring turnaround has not materialized, the economy remains sluggish, and companies are still cutting expenses to keep their heads above water."

According to the latest employment report by the NJ Department of Labor, released earlier this week, the state's private sector lost 21,700 jobs in the first five months of this year. That brings the total private sector employment loss over the last 11 months to 36,100.

This represents the private sector's largest employment decline in a decade.

The New Jersey Business & Industry Association tracks the monthly changes in the state's private sector employment as reported by the Department of Labor. (private sector employment does not include government jobs.) NJBIA also publishes New Jersey Employment Watch, a monthly review of these changes, on its Web site.

The bulk of the employment losses in the current recession have come in the state's beleaguered manufacturing industries, which erased 12,900 jobs in the first five months of this year. This comes on top of a loss of 26,300 jobs in all of 2001, the steepest one year drop in a decade.

Manufacturing employment has fallen steadily over the last 20 years. Since hitting a peak of more than 800,000 in 1979, factory jobs have declined by nearly 50 percent to their current level of 425,100. The rate of decline tends to moderate during economic expansions and accelerate during recessions.

Employment in the state's service sector (not including government), which accounts for 80 percent of private sector employment, has been erratic over the last eleven months. Since hitting a peak of nearly 2.82 million jobs last June,

service sector employment has fallen by 9,900 jobs, a decline of slightly less than a half a percentage point. More tellingly, however, most of that decline (7,000 jobs) has come in the first five months of this year.

Although the construction industry erased 1,800 jobs in the first five months of this year, it has lost only 100 jobs since the recession started last July. As of May, construction employment stood at 161,100.

A slumping real estate market has contributed to the state's economic malaise. Burdened by a glut of empty office space caused by corporate cost cutting, the vacancy rate has remained flat at 12 percent since late last year. At the top end of the market, vacancy rates have hit 20 percent.

A potential bright spot in the state and national economies is the manufacturing sector. In stark contrast to the last two years, US manufacturing in May grew for the fourth consecutive month. Factory orders have been bolstered, among other things, by continued strength in new home sales. Economists say a sustained turnaround in manufacturing, which led us into the recession, would provide the foundation for a durable economic recovery.

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- Are you interested in learning how to turn your hobby into a moneymaking business?
- Do you want to be your OWN BOSS?
- Do you want to win awards and earn money?

NFTE BizCamp: August 12 - August 23, 2002

Two-week intensive summer program on the NJIT Newark campus aimed at providing students with a solid business background. Includes field trips and guest speakers. Artistically inclined students are encouraged to apply. Students will compete for cash awards at the end of the class to fund their businesses.

Application Deadline: June 28, 2002

For more information or to submit an application
please contact:
Stacy Simmons
NFTE, c/o NJIT Enterprise Development Center
105 Lock Street
Newark, NJ 07103
Tel 973-643-4063 Fax 973-643-4502
simmons@njit.edu
website: www.njit-edc.org

Hospitals combine resources in new cardiac surgery division

NEWARK — Officials at University Hospital and New Jersey Medical School have announced an affiliation with the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons for the establishment of a new division of cardio thoracic surgery at The University Hospital/New Jersey Medical School of Newark on July 1.

"Through our affiliation with Columbia, we'll take an immediate leap forward in the services and quality we can bring to our patients. As an academic medical center, University Hospital has the existing talent and technology necessary to support the introduction to New Jersey of new procedures that are currently being pioneered and perfected in New York by Columbia," said Sidney E. Mitchell, President and CEO of University Hospital. University Hospital is owned and operated by the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ).

New Jersey Medical School



Pictured from (l-r) Columbia physicians Dr. Douglas Jackson and Dr. Barry Esrig, join Dr. Michael Banker, director of cardiac surgery at UMDNJ.

Dean, Russell T. Joffe, MD agreed. "The combination of the best of both schools allows us to move quickly in broadening our clinical, education and research capabilities in the entire range of the cardiac sciences."

Columbia physician Dr. Barry Esrig will become the director of the division of cardio thoracic surgery at University Hospital/New Jersey Medical School. Also joining the University Hospital team from Columbia will be Dr. Douglas Jackson. Dr. Jackson will be named the vice chairman of critical care in the department of anesthesiology and will direct the new Cardio thoracic Surgery Intensive Care unit currently under construction.

Time to protect kids against elements of summer

NEWARK — This is the time of year when parents are reminded of measures for protecting their children from the harmful effects of the summer elements.

Unprotected exposure to the sun's rays can cause skin damage, eye damage and even cancer. The sun's rays contain three types of UV (ultraviolet) light: UVA, UVB and UVC. It's most important to protect skin from UVA and UVB light," according to Frank J. Cunningham, Jr., MD, director of Pediatric at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

Cunningham offers the following advice to parents for keeping kids safe in the sun: Avoid the sun when the rays are the strongest, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Use a sunscreen with SPF (sun protection factor) of at least 15. Apply sunscreen generously at least 30 minutes before going outside and reapply every two hours, even on cloudy or overcast

days. Keep infants six months of age and under out of the sun as sunscreen should not be used on children this young. If your baby must be in the sun, dress the infant in lightweight clothes that covers the body and a hat with a brim to shade the face, and cover with an umbrella.

Remember to protect the eyes, too with sunglasses providing 100 percent UV protection. Sun exposure can burn the cornea.

If your child has a sunburn, give him a cool (not cold) bath or apply cool, wet compresses, then give the child a pain reliever like acetaminophen. To rehydrate the skin and reduce swelling, apply a topical first aid cream or contact your doctor for recommendations. While in the sun, keep kids hydrated.



Breaking the silence: The Church and Human Sexuality – Everybody's Business

By Rev. Dr. Susan Newman

When was the last time you participated in a church discussion about sex and sexuality? Was it at the annual "Saved People Don't Talk About Sex" seminar?

Unfortunately, sex is not a topic discussed in churches unless something bad has happened, like the Roman Catholic priest sex abuse scandal. Our sexuality is a wonderful gift from God, and we in the African American faith community need to start seeing it as a gift, and not a taboo subject. Now is a good time to start understanding, embracing, and respecting our sexuality by viewing it in new and different ways. When the black church is able to talk honestly about sex, teach about sex, and preach from the pulpit about issues related to sex then we will begin to see powerful changes in the life of the black community.

We have sat inside our churches, temples and mosques praying for our people to survive, thrive and arrive alive at their divine destinations in life. But many of us are still silent on the subject of sex. In a time when one in 50 black men is HIV positive, and one in 160 black women is HIV positive prayer needs a partner. In a time when black senior citizens represent more than 50 percent of HIV cases among persons over age 55 prayer needs a partner.

It is not enough for us to pray for a miracle, we must be the miracle! We can start an honest, healthy dialogue about responsible sexual behavior during our annual Christian education workshops, in our singles ministry, youth retreats, and marriage enrichment classes. We can create safe places for women who are suffering sexual and physical abuse to



Rev. Dr. Susan Newman, author come for refuge, and referral. We can offer children, and youth an understanding, informative atmosphere where they can raise their questions about pregnancy prevention, peer pressure, and unwanted sexual advances.

The black church, through sexuality education can bring a wonderful affirmation of sexuality as a natural and healthy part of life. Adults and youth can affirm their faith, and explore their sexual ethics and values through open and honest dialogue. There are many avenues one can take to begin this journey.

The Black church Initiative encourages and assists African American clergy and laity in addressing teen pregnancy prevention, sexuality education, and other reproductive health issues within the context of the African American culture and religion. Towards this end, the coalition will be convening the National Black Religious Summit VI on Sexuality, July 10-12, 2002, at the Howard University School of Divinity, Washington, DC.

This year's theme is "Breaking the Silence: The Church and Human Sexuality – Everybody's Business." This summit has a youth track and an adult track. To register and receive more information, visit the website at www.rccr.org.

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Director, Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit

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NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

State abandons Newark

By M. Scheryl Gant

NEWARK — As plans to construct a \$355M sports and entertainment arena in Newark appeared to bounce out of bounds late last week, three prominent Newarkers held a press conference Friday to question the rational of legislators who oppose the project.

"This is not the Newark arena. It is the New Jersey regional arena located in Newark," said Gustav Henningburg, who was wearing his arena consultancy hat at the press conference. Henningburg said the Arena will be a regional facility, just as the New Jersey Performing Arts Center is a regional cultural facility located in Newark.

Gayle L. Chaneyfield-Jenkins, a Newark councilwoman at-large and Len Coleman, chairman of the Newark Sports and Entertainment division of the YankeeNets organization, joined Henningburg at the press conference.

The small contingency of reporters attending the conference were handed a thick press kit containing at least 12 endorsements for the project from groups as diverse as the Sierra Club, two former state treasurers, labor unions, the Black Ministers Council of New Jersey and 16 prominent law firms.

Chaneyfield-Jenkins said the arena has the potential to create "\$2B in new downtown development with a parallel track in neighborhoods."

"The arena project would also attract circuses and other first class family entertainments," said Chaneyfield-Jenkins, who chairs the Newark City Council's Arena Committee. She said the arena could possibly also attract other educational developments, such



Len Coleman

as a planetarium, that would enhance Newark's attractiveness as a destination city.

Coleman, a nationally recognized expert who has developed several successful arena projects, said that while "the arena coming to Newark is not going to solve Newark's economic problems, the arena will be a very important rung," in Newark's continued growth.

Locating the arena in Newark creates the possibility of a "whole experience" of an evening out that the logistics of the Meadowlands does not offer, Coleman continued.

"An arena in Newark is 18,000 to 20,000 people attending hockey, or basketball; parents meeting their children at Penn Station; eating out on the street; going to the arena; stopping in a restaurant afterwards," Coleman said. He said that Newark has the mass transit network that is "critical" to the success of an arena, based on the established national models in cities such as Cleveland and Denver.

Henningburg says it is easy to "peel away all arguments (against locating the arena in Newark) in a fashion that you can not argue against."

Speaking of the "\$18M in administrative costs and \$7M in



Gayle L. Chaneyfield-Jenkins

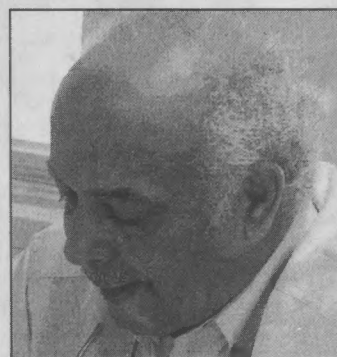
debt service that the Continental Arena costs taxpayers annually, Henningburg said, "How is it that the media ignores the conclusion of two former treasurers (one Republican and one Democrat) that the Continental Arena is sitting on some of the most valuable land in the US."

Henningburg said the argument that "we don't want to move it (the arena from the Meadowlands) because it will hurt the taxpayers," is also unfounded.

"I'm not sure that business people anywhere else would put up with three and a half years, plus three governors fighting to put this thing in Newark," Henningburg said. "It's not sound business." He added that moving the arena to Newark would not result in a major job loss because Secaucus residents employed at the Meadowlands can drive to Newark in 15 minutes, and Newark is better served by public transportation than the Meadowlands.

Chaneyfield-Jenkins said that one belief not easily diffused with reason is "the stereotype that Newark is unsafe."

"The NJPAC allayed those fears because no one has gotten attacked coming to see a show,"



Gustav "Gus" Henningburg

she said, offering that most of the NJ legislators have not visited Newark since the city went on the up climb.

An accomplished career negotiator, Henningburg said that the proposal to bring the new arena to Newark has the victim of legislative foot-dragging and road blocks from the onset.

Henningburg also sought to deflate arguments that the Continental Arena is economically important to Bergen County. Henningburg said — The Winners' Club — is the only restaurant that has opened in the Meadowlands during the 19 years that the Continental Arena has been there. Since The Winners' Club is inside the arena, Henningburg said he counts it on the debt service side of the arena's ledger.

"There is nobody, including the mayor of East Rutherford (where the arena is located), or the Bergen county executive who can demonstrate the argument that the arena is the economic engine of Bergen County," Henningburg said.

The arena deal nearly passed last year under the leadership of acting Governor Donald DiFrancesco. One year later the improved McGreevey proposal seems to

be spiraling into a déjà vu quagmire as lawmakers seek to saddle the bill with local "piggyback" projects. This year the list includes a soccer stadium in Harrison, and a hockey rink in Pennsauken.

Senate Co-President John Bennett (R-Monmouth) increased the frustration factor last week when he balked at Statehouse appeals by former Republican governors Tom Kean and DiFrancesco to set aside partisan politics and support locating the arena project in Newark. At the height of last Thursday's arena lobbying Bennett remained sequestered in his office. He declined to answer questions, with anything beyond "no comment", fueling speculation that his position opposing the project is solely to weaken Democrats in the fall legislature elections.

To worsen matters, the number of Assembly Democrats opposing locating the arena in Newark edged to nine, defusing a 44-36 Democratic advantage in the Assembly. The support for and against the arena is split evenly along party lines in the Senate. McGreevey is under pressure from the YankeeNets organization to get the arena plan through the legislature by the July 1 recess.

Arena facts: No fiction, no fears

Following is a fact sheet accurately describing some aspects of the proposed Newark Arena, and responding to inquiries on the agreement.

Myth: The Newark Arena is taxpayer financed.

Fact: The Newark Arena is not taxpayer financed. It is financed by four elements: \$120M from YankeeNets; \$50M in loans from Newark and Essex counties; \$165M in loans to be repaid from sales taxes and income taxes generated by the Arena; \$20M in subordinated loans \$10M from YankeeNets and \$10M from

Port Authority.

Myth: The Newark Arena will not generate any new revenue for the State.

Fact: The Newark Arena will act as a catalyst for the development of millions of square feet of new office, commercial and residential buildings. This new development will result in 13,000 new jobs. The State will keep all the income taxes paid from these new employees, and all the corporate income taxes paid by these new companies that will occupy these offices; Most of these new companies and employees will come from out

of state (probably New York).

Myth: The Newark Arena provides taxpayer assistance for the benefit of a few wealthy owners.

Fact: Unlike the current Continental Arena, all the operating expenses, losses, and necessary capital improvements resulting from the operation of the Newark Arena would be borne by the tenants of the arena i.e., the Nets & Devils.

All the arenas (roughly 22) in the United States that have at least one professional sports franchise as a tenant were built with some level of public support. If New Jersey will not

offer even this modest level of assistance for a new arena, then another neighboring state will certainly see the economic benefits and make a competitive offer to lure the franchises.

Myth: We have a perfectly good arena in the Meadowlands and a new one in Newark is a waste of taxpayer money.

Fact: The Continental Arena rarely operates at full capacity, mostly due to its inconvenient location and lack of amenities resulting in a poor fan experience. Even with the Devils winning the Stanley Cup, there have been few sell-outs.

Virtually all the states constructing new arenas today are relocating their suburban arenas into downtown urban centers (e.g., Denver, Washington, Cleveland, Los Angeles, Miami, etc.) For arenas to maximize their catalytic effect, downtown neighborhoods in need of new investment and additional development have become the location of choice.

Myth: Putting an arena in Newark will make an awful traffic situation just worse.

Fact: Most arena events begin at 7:00 PM or later, and traffic engineers will design routes to ease the traffic flow.

Tap City Gala

Jeni LeGon was the first black woman to be given a contract with a major studio. The 85 year old will be inducted into the Tap Dance Hall of Fame during the NYC Tap Festival.

Gregory Hines will appear in Tap City Gala Performance on July 11 and teach a master class, all part of Tap City 2002 eight day festival of tap performances, workshops and the Tap Dance Hall of Fame, July 6 thru 14.



Kam's Kapsules

For movies opening June 28, 2002

by Kam Williams

INDEPENDENT & FOREIGN FILMS

BIG BUDGET FILMS

Hey Arnold! The Movie (PG for thematic elements) Nickelodeon film about Arnold and his best friend Gerald who use their own full-length vehicle to fight an omnivorous, industrialist out to mall their hometown.

Mr. Deeds (PG-13 for language, sexual references and rear nudity) Adam Sandler stars in remake of a 1936 classic about a small-town boy who inherits a fortune and falls in love with a big city reporter played by Winona Ryder.

In Praise of Love (Unrated) Director Jean-Luc Godard's meandering meditation about a trio of philosophical couples looking for the meaning of life. (black & white film in French with subtitles).

Lovely & Amazing (R for profanity and nudity) Bittersweet British comedy of four females examining self-esteem issues.

Pumpkin (R for language and a sex scene) Christina Ricci stars as a college coed who falls in love with a mental retard.

Minority Report: Another Dreary, Disappointing Sci-Fi from Steven Spielberg

Review by Kam Williams

Unless you enjoyed "Artificial Intelligence": AI (2001) immensely, it would be unfair of me not warn you away from "Minority Report", another unpleasant, interminable, futuristic indulgence from director Steven Spielberg.

Although the legendary three-time Oscar-winner has wooed us with some of the best movies ever made, including "Jaws" (1975), "Raiders of the Lost Ark" (1981), "ET" (1982) and "Schindler's List" (1993), he has also foisted his share of flops on the public.

You can dump "Minority Report" into his dustbin of lousy losers, despite its very promising premise.

Set in Washington, DC in 2054, the film is a cautionary tale which questions the ethical limitations of a crime-prevention program which puts people behind bars before they have behaved feloniously, merely for having homicidal intentions.

Oscar-nominee Tom Cruise (for "Magnolia"), stars as Detective John Anderton, a chief proponent of the brain police's Pre Crime unit until its mind-reading technology fingers him as a murderer, too.

The movie is based on the 1956 short story by the late Philip K. Dick, the much-celebrated author of a cerebral brand of science fiction.

Several of Dick's works have previously been adapted into blockbusters successfully, such as "Blade Runner" (1982) starring Harrison Ford and "Total Recall" (1990) starring Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Spielberg squanders the talents of Cruise and quite a capable cast, which included other Oscar-nominees, Max Von Sydow for "Pelle the Conqueror" and Samantha Morton for "Sweet and Lowdown".

The dramatic personae credits over 100 actors and actresses, with some familiar names and faces including, Anna Maria Horsford (Thelma

Tom Cruise in "Minority Report"

of TV's "Amen"), Jessica Capshaw (Spielberg's step-daughter), Eugene Osment (Haley Joel's dad), Arye Gross (Adam of TV's "Ellen") and William Mapother (Tom Cruise's cousin).

It's hard to imagine how Minority Report will recoup its \$80+ million budget, even though the visually-engaging adventure features 481 state-of-the-art special effects. The problems are plentiful.

First, the city of tomorrow as seen here, despite all its dazzling gadgetry, is unappealingly dreary and steely, just as in "AI".

Second, even the characters come off as cringe-inducing post-human, again, as in "AI".

Worst of all was the story itself, which was utterly rudderless, implausible, depressing and about a half-hour too long. Yep, like "AI".

As a result, I found myself actually relieved and welcoming the escape offered by the plethora of prominent product placements for companies like The Gap, Reebok, Pepsi, Ben & Jerry's, Radio Shack, USA Today, Lexus, Nokia and Aquafina.

But what does it say, when you've been manipulated to be more pleasantly inclined towards a movie's carefully-positioned commercials than towards anything else on screen?

It tells me that the brains behind the ad campaign could be every bit as diabolical as those who might envision a future where we imprison people for their thoughts alone.

And then maybe I'm merely paranoid and "Minority Report" is no worse than any other so-so sci-fi flick.

Fair (1star). Rated PG-13 for violence, brief profanity, a little sexuality and drug use.

Kam Williams is a social correspondent for City News. He covers movie and book reviews.







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Selling Out America's Children

Book Review by Kam Williams

"As a society, we Americans are sacrificing our children at the altar of financial gain. We are selling out America's children for money. Although we are often not consciously aware of it, maximizing profit is more important to us than asking ourselves whether or not something is beneficial or harmful to our children."

—David Walsh on modern morality

Have you noticed that kids are growing up faster than ever? Dr. David Walsh has and wants to do something about it.

The noted behavioral psychologist says that, tragically, our youth have become the darling demographic targeted by greedy advertisers intent on wresting the responsibility for child-rearing right out of the hands of parents.

Selling Out America's Children, an eye-opener which not only identifies the problem areas but which also offers

solid, common sense solutions for those parents willing to make the necessary sacrifices. For as the author points out, we are the ones who ought to be blamed when children adopt a flawed system of values.

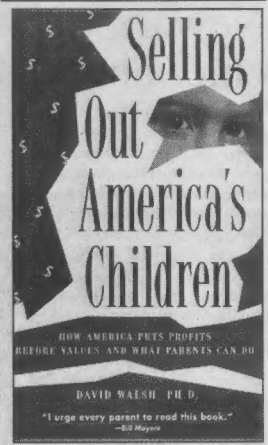
Thus, adult laziness is indicted, here, for allowing television to raise kids, knowing full well that it is merely a brainwashing tool designed to raise profits.

"We must address the abandonment of our children to harmful issues," Walsh

insists. "We need to be aware that our children have to contend with powerful messages directed at them with sophisticated technology."

Walsh says we simply need to spend much more time with our kids while drastically reducing their exposure to TV programming and advertising.

The book makes a convincing case that only by carefully monitoring TV and Internet usage, might one reclaim their malleable minds from a system hell bent on exploiting them for profit.



Five black filmmakers in 5th Annual HBO finals

NEW YORK — Five upandcoming black filmmakers have been selected as finalists for the 5th annual HBO Short Film Award. The nominees will be flown to South Beach, Florida for the final round of competition, where their films will be featured at a special screening on the opening night of the American Black Film Festival (ABFF) at the end of the month.

The ABFF, formerly the Acapulco Black Film Festival, is jointly presented by UniWorld Group, Inc. and December Ventures and sponsored by HBO. The HBO Short Film Award, created in 1998, serves to recognize and encourage artistic excellence in black cinema, and has been a staple in the ABFF's competitive film showcase since its inception. The competition is open to filmmakers of African descent who have directed and written or produced original short fictional films of 30 minutes or less.

The 2002 nominees are:



Dandara "A Funeral at the Samba School," cowritten and directed by Dandara, about a beloved musician and community leader whose sudden death brings together friends and admirers with amusing results.



Ben Watkins "Quest to Ref," written and executive produced by Ben Watkins, a story of an aspiring ref who risks his life in his efforts to bring fairness to the game of basketball on an innercity court.

"See the Truth," written and directed by Jerold Howard, an



Jerold Howard animated film that takes a lighthearted look at the family structure and how biases and perceptions are transferred from generation to generation.



Sechaba Morojele "Ubuntu's Wounds," written and directed by Sechaba Morojele, follows one man's emotional journey as he tries to come to terms with South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission's decision to grant amnesty to the person responsible for his wife's death.



Desha Dauchan "Whispers," written and directed by Desha Dauchan, about the downfall of a young man obsessed with his own success and wracked with guilt over the tragic death of his girlfriend.

This year's final entries will be judged at the festival by a panel of distinguished African American directors and an HBO executive, with one winner awarded a \$20,000 grand prize during the ABFF's closing night ceremonies on June 29.

Last year, the HBO Short Film Award grand prize went to writer/director Joy Phillips for her film "Kickin' Chicken," a satire about a woman's fried chicken "addiction."

Participants and honorees in the past five years have included Denzel Washington, Halle Berry, Morgan Freeman, John Singleton, Pam Grier, Debbie Allen, Robert Townsend and Suzanne de Pass.



Newark City Council backs school chief among other council business

The Newark City Council added its voice to the debate about the future of the city's school system last night by passing a resolution expressing support and confidence in Superintendent Marion Bolden.

The resolution comes after Education Commissioner William Libera announced the state would begin the process of returning local control to three state-run school districts, including Newark. As part of the plan, a nationwide search for superintendent would be conducted with Bolden as a finalist.

Several members of the council have said that Bolden has provided the district with stability and should be allowed to continue in the job.

In other council business, an ordinance giving the developer for Brick Towers 18 months to submit redevelopment plans was approved.

The subsidized housing on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard was originally scheduled to be demolished, but residents fought the plan, saying the

buildings are in good shape and they would have trouble finding other housing.

The move comes after Getz Obstfeld, president of Community Developers Inc. of New Rochelle, N.Y., presented evidence to the council that he had obtained a guarantee for at least \$5.5 million in housing aid with the possibility of more from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Residents, who will own half of the building under the plan, cheered last night when Obstfeld announced a preliminary financing deal with Prudential that could mean that the buildings would use only private funds in the renovation.

"It might be the wave of the future that our buildings in Newark are perceived as worthy investments," said Councilwoman Mamie Bridgeforth.

The council also deferred discussion of an ordinance proposed by Councilwoman-at-large Bessie Walker that would freeze grant money to nonprofit and community groups that have

outstanding bills with the city.

Bridgeforth argued that the proposal might make some agencies choose between paying outstanding water bills or providing services to city residents. Walker's position was that there are enough social service agencies in the city to pick up the slack if one group was denied funding.

The council also defeated a resolution awarding a \$40,000 contract for the Universal Industrial Clinic, run by Chandrakant Patel, to provide physical examines for participants in the Mayor's Office of Employment and Training, which administers the summer youth job training program.

Patel, an Edison physician, owns the Medical Laboratory of Ironbound that was closed by the state in March after health officials said the lab reported false results for HIV tests and other serious illnesses to as many as 4,000 patients, altered results and performed work it was not licensed to do.


NJ Transit opens two new stations

NEWARK — The Newark City Subway system was extended by one mile on Saturday 22, when NJ TRANSIT welcomed two new stations — Silver Lake Station in Belleville and Grove Street Station in Bloomfield. Grove Street Station includes a new 160-space park/ride for the Newark City Subway, the first official park/ride on the 67-year-old system.

The opening of the two new stations marks the first extension of the Newark City Subway since a short segment from Heller Parkway to Franklin Avenue opened in November 1940. The Newark City Subway improvement project cost \$188 million, and was funded by the federal and state governments.

NJ TRANSIT resumed a full schedule of weekday and

weekend service on the Newark City Subway, eliminating the need for substitute bus service related to the construction. Nightly service for Silver Lake and Grove Street stations, however, concludes each night at 10:00 p.m. Subway riders can access the No. 90 bus, which serves both Silver Lake and Grove Street stations, to reach their destinations after 10:00 p.m.



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To get your **FREE Summer Fun Guide**, call:

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Calendar

Community

ONGOING

New Brunswick — Help available for parents concerned about children's safety. For more info call 1-800-CHILDREN.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

New Brunswick — Mayor Boilwage will participate in a seminar at Cook College entitled Brownfields Redevelopment, A New Jersey Opportunity from 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

Elizabeth — Annual Kiddiefest will be held at Caldwell Place from 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

Newark — Newark branch NAACP presents healthcare seminar at NJPAC from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 973-624-6400.

FRIDAY, JULY 5 - LABOR DAY

Jersey City — Liberty Science Center offers Family Friendly Days from 9:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. For more info call 201-200-1000.

MONDAY, JULY 8 - AUG. 15

Bloomfield — The Advanced Technology Institute at Bloomfield College will hold a world class summer computer camp for high school juniors and seniors from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. For more info call 973-748-9000.

Livingston — The ARC of Essex County invite volunteers at Stepping Stones, a Livingston school serving children with special needs for the summer session. For info call 973-992-983.

TUESDAY, JULY 9

New Brunswick — NJBIZ, McCarter and English, Withum Smith and Brown present a seminar to review the NJ budget and its impact on business, at Rutgers Bloustein School, 33 Livingston Ave. For more info call 732-246-5731.

Business

WED, JUNE 19 - AUGUST 14

Newark — Ironbound Business Improvement District presents Sounds of Ironbound from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. For more info call 973-491-9191.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

Newark — Ironbound Business Improvement District presents Sounds of Ironbound from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. For more info call 973-491-9191.

Heartbeat

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

Cedar Grove — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at Cedar Grove Ambulance & Rescue Squad from 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Call 973-676-4700.

THURSDAY, JUNE 27

Plainfield — National HIV Testing Day celebration will take place in front of the Plainfield YWCA from 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. For more info call 908-753-6401.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

Newark — Ironbound Community Corporation will hold free mammogram and pap smear testing for women over 40 years old. For info call 973-465-0555.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

Newark — A free screening and health seminar will be held at NJPAC from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. For info call Dr. Ensley at 973-674-9936.

MONDAY, JULY 1

Belleville — A community blood drive will be held at Greylock Chiropractic at 564 Union Ave. from 3:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 4

Montclair — A community blood drive will take place at Masonic Montclair Lodge from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 5

Jersey City — A community blood drive will take place at the Department of Recreation from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 8

Montclair — The Greater North Jersey Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society will present a group counseling series for those newly diagnosed with the disease at 7:00 p.m. For more info call 1-800-833-0087.

TUESDAYS, JULY 9, 23

Irvington — Irvington General Hospital will host a Crochet Club from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. For more info call 973-399-6033.

THURSDAY, JULY 11

Nutley — Community Blood Drive will take place at Masonic Nutley Lodge from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 12

Livingston — Community blood drive will take place at Livingston Mall from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 13

Keamy — Community blood drive will take place at Kearny Board of Health from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 15

West Caldwell — Community blood drive will take place at West Essex First Aid Squad from 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 23

Newark — Newark Beth Israel Medical Center will hold a blood drive from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. For more info call 973-926-7175.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

Clifton — Clara Mass Auxiliary will host a fashion show at the Valley Regency at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 973-450-2150.

Artz

THURSDAYS, JUNE 20, 27

New York — Sam Goody's "Home Before Midnight Concert Series" at the South Street Sea Port will start at 6:00 p.m. For more info call 1-212-SEA-PORT.

MONDAY, JUNE 24 - SEPT 2

Cape May — The Mid Atlantic Center for the Arts will host Cape May's Welcome INN Tour from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. For more info call 609-884-5404.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

Newark — New Jersey Performing Arts Center will host the 7th annual New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Community Partners Concert at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 1-800-ALLEGRO.

Newark — The Newark Museum will present the youth cinema, Ruby Bridges at 1:00 p.m. For more info call 800-7-MUSEUM.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26 - 30

Jackson — Six Flags Great Adventure will host a Caribbean Festival. Call 732-928-2000.

WED, JUNE 26 - AUGUST 8

Newark — The Newark Museum will host the 28th Annual Newark Black Film Festival with guest speaker Pam Grier at 7:00 p.m. For more info call 973-596-6355.

THURSDAY, JUNE 27

Newark — Absolut Sounds of the City 2002 will present an outdoor music series including Enrico Granafel Group, The Choro Gafiera Project, and Lucky Ngema from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. For more info call 888-GO-NJPAC.

THURS, JUNE 27 - SEPT 22

New York — The Whitney Museum of Art will present an exhibit on Jack Goldstein: Films and Performance. For info call 800-WHITNEY.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

Jackson — Six Flags Great Adventure will host a Gospel Festival. Call 732-928-2000.

SAT, JUNE 29, SAT, JULY 27

Morristown — Free summer evening concert at the Jockey Hollow Unit of Morristown National Historical Park at 7:30 p.m. For info call 973-539-2016.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

Newark — The Newark Museum will present an ongoing exhibition, "From Castles and Tents: Tibetan Carpets." Call 800-7-MUSEUM.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

Garwood — The United Jersey Blues Network will present a "Battle of the Bands." Doors open at 5:00 p.m. For more info call 908-232-5666.

MONDAY, JULY 1

Lincroft — The Monmouth County Parks System will continue its "Great Impressionism for Aspiring Young Artists" series at the Thompson Park Craft Center from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. For info call 732-842-4000.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3 - 7

Jackson — Six Flags Great Adventure will celebrate America. For more info call 732-928-2000.

Newark — The Newark Museum will host Storytelling in Art: Stories of Greek Heroes, Legends and Myths at 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. Call 800-7-MUSEUM.

WED, JULY 3 - SUN, AUG 18

Newark — The Newark Museum presents the Dreyfuss Planetarium beginning at 12:00 p.m. For more info call 800-7-MUSEUM.

THURSDAY, JULY 4

New York — South Street Seaport presents Sam Goody's "Home Before Midnight Concert Series" from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. For more info call 212-732-8257.

SATURDAY, JULY 6

Weehawken — Regina Bell performs at Midnight Yachi Cruise fundraiser for Black United Fund NJ from 8:00 p.m. - Midnight at the Lincoln Harbor. Call 973-676-5283

MONDAY, JULY 8

Newark — The Newark Public Library will present Rapunzel at 10:30 a.m. Call 973-733-5643.

Newark — The Newark Public Library will present The Mirror Lied at 10:30 a.m. Call 973-733-5643.

New York — Tap City's Youth Program director Michele Ribble will host Tap Youth/Tap Future at The Duke at 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. For info call 212-239-6200.

TUESDAY, JULY 9

Morristown — The Morris Museum will host Sleeping Beauty from 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Fall info call 973-971-3700.

Religion

WED, JUNE 26 THROUGH 28

Newark — The Black Ministers Council of New Jersey will hold workshop and training sessions at the Sheraton Hotel. For info call 973-678-1217.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

Newark — St. James AME Church presents guest soloist Gloria Weems at 10:45 a.m. worship service. Call 973-622-1344.

MON, JULY 15 THROUGH 19

Newark — The Newark Church of Christ will conduct Vacation Bible School for all ages from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. For info 973-374-4563.

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